

EXTERNAL TRADE OF QUEENSLAND.Three Months Ended 31st December, 1956.

In the second quarter of the financial year 1956-57, external trade of Queensland showed a balance of exports over imports of £17.5m., which was over £8m. more than that in the corresponding quarter of 1955-56. Imports, at £57.2m., were of about the same value as in the previous year, but exports rose substantially - by £8.5m. - to £74.7m. Imports from overseas, as in previous quarters, continued to decrease, being only £11.4m. compared with £15.5m. in the corresponding quarter of 1955-56, but this fall was offset by a rise in interstate imports to £45.8m. Exports, particularly those to overseas, were higher than in the December quarter of 1955, their totals being £46.0m. to overseas and £28.7m. to other States.

With larger imports from other States offsetting the increased exports thereto, the improved trade balance mentioned above was principally due to direct overseas trade, where greatly increased exports were supplemented in this respect by decreased imports. The main items of overseas exports showing increases were sugar, wool, copper, lead, titanium, &c., and various other minerals, but meat and butter exports decreased. Imports from overseas were less for nearly all commodities, exceptions however being oils, paper &c., and fertilisers. The most important increases in exports to other States were in sugar, wool, fresh vegetables and meat, while imports from other States showed rises in a wide range of commodities.

Details of overseas and interstate exports and imports during the three months ended 31st December, 1956, compared with the corresponding three months of 1955, are given in the tables appended hereto.

Six Months Ended 31st December, 1956.

External trade of Queensland during the first half of the financial year 1956-57 is summarised below and compared with corresponding figures for the first half of 1955-56 (in brackets).

			<u>Thousand £.</u>				
			<u>Exports.</u>	<u>Imports.</u>		<u>Excess of Exports.</u>	
			<u>Overseas and Interstate Trade.</u>				
Overseas	..	..	.. 86,570 (82,362)	25,165	(32,045)	61,405	(50,317)
Interstate	..	..	.. 56,080 (50,181)	90,691	(84,656)	34,611*	(34,475*)
Total	..	..	.. 142,650 (132,543)	115,856	(116,701)	26,794	(15,842)
			<u>Main Commodity Groups.</u>				
Foodstuffs of animal origin			21,391 (26,643)	1,915	(2,204)	19,476	(24,439)
Foodstuffs, &c. of vegetable origin	..	..	.. 44,064 (38,015)	8,517	(8,404)	35,547	(29,611)
Animal & vegetable substances (not foodstuffs)	..	..	.. 44,424 (36,312)	7,800	(6,756)	36,624	(29,556)
Apparel and textiles	..	..	.. 2,616 (2,289)	18,000	(19,207)	15,384*	(16,918*)
Oils, fats, and waxes			2,288 (2,255)	8,261	(6,690)	5,973*	(4,435*)
Minerals, metals, and manufactures thereof	..	..	.. 21,287 (18,796)	45,066	(47,306)	23,779*	(28,510*)
Other items	..	..	.. 6,580 (8,233)	26,297	(26,134)	19,717*	(17,901*)
All items	..	..	.. 142,650 (132,543)	115,856	(116,701)	26,794	(15,842)

\* Excess of imports.

For the six months ended December, 1956, Queensland exports were worth £142.7m. and imports £115.9m., making a balance (excess of exports) of £26.8m., or £11.0m. more than in the corresponding half of 1955-56. Both overseas and interstate exports were higher than the corresponding figures for the earlier financial year, but imports from overseas were well down while imports from other States increased. The net result was that, while the excess of imports on account of interstate trade of £34.6m. was practically identical with the corresponding figure in 1955-56, the favourable balance of exports on overseas trade rose from £50.3m. to £61.4m.



Among the commodity groups, foodstuffs &c. of vegetable origin and animal and vegetable substances (not foodstuffs) showed greatly increased export balances, due principally to larger exports of sugar and wool overseas and of tobacco, sugar, fresh vegetables, and wool to other States. Foodstuffs of animal origin showed a decreased balance of exports, meat and butter sent overseas being down, although there was some increase in meat exported to other States. The remaining groups, of which Queensland always imports more than it exports, recorded increased balances of imports in oils, fats and waxes, and in "other" items, but the excess of imports was greatly reduced in minerals, metals and manufactures thereof and reduced slightly in apparel and textiles. The reduction in the former was largely due to greater exports overseas of lead and titanium &c., and smaller oversea imports of motor vehicles &c., and of iron and steel.

Queensland's excess of exports on all external trade during the six months up to December, 1956, of £26.8m. was equal to £19 8s. 8d. per head of population, compared with a corresponding export surplus for Australia as a whole of £99.9m. or £10 9s. 7 d. per head. On direct oversea trade only, Queensland had an export surplus of £61.4m., or £44 10s. 8d. per head. On the assumption that Queensland obtained the same value of commodities per head as the rest of Australia did from overseas, the State's trade for the six months may be summarised as follows:-

Exports to overseas .. .. .	£86.6m.
"    " other States .. .. .	£56.1m.
Total exports .. .. .	<u>£142.7m.</u>
Imports direct from overseas .. .. .	£25.2m.
"    from overseas via other States .. .. .	£27.1m.
"    of other States' produce .. .. .	<u>£63.6m.</u>
Total imports .. .. .	<u>£115.9m.</u>
Export surplus .. .. .	<u>£26.8m.</u>

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BRISBANE.

29th August, 1957.

Table 1.

Value of Exports from Queensland, Three Months Ended December, 1955 and 1956.

Commodity.	Three Months Ended December, 1955.		Three Months Ended December, 1956.	
	To Overseas.	To Other States.	To Overseas.	To Other States.
	£	£	£	£
Beef & veal, fresh or pres. by cold process	6,001,913	187,096	4,256,109	347,076
Other meat, &c. .. .. .	467,641	100,206	359,062	99,464
Bacon and hams .. .. .	44,663	204,602	47,203	259,257
Meat, poultry, &c. - preserved in tins, &c.	2,550,981	305,233	1,228,146	493,893
Butter .. .. .	2,329,152	274,206	1,566,939	449,703
Cheese .. .. .	112,864	122,535	97,119	179,111
Eggs, in shell or pulped .. .. .	96,452	1	199,126	-
Other foodstuffs of animal origin .. .. .	435,261	83,808	252,561	221,010
<u>Total foodstuffs of animal origin .. .. .</u>	<u>12,038,927</u>	<u>1,277,687</u>	<u>8,006,265</u>	<u>2,049,514</u>
Wheat .. .. .	813,877	5,452	245,277	885
Sorghum .. .. .	134,191	717	71,224	15,709
Other grains, unprepared or simply prepared	125,331	78,345	238,104	197,799
Flour, wheaten .. .. .	216,969	76,341	284,821	122,728
Vegetables, fresh .. .. .	7,937	1,050,117	5,382	1,263,209
Fruit, fresh .. .. .	4,281	314,345	5,829	339,478
Fruit, preserved in liquid or pulped .. .. .	462,396	765,084	230,800	823,359
Peanuts, including paste .. .. .	-	157,644	-	700,246
Sugar, raw or refined .. .. .	7,397,085	7,992,730	10,832,951	8,444,308
Other foodstuffs of veg. origin, beverages	184,281	458,514	119,245	484,709
<u>Total foodstuffs of vegetable origin and beverages .. .. .</u>	<u>9,346,348</u>	<u>10,899,289</u>	<u>12,033,633</u>	<u>12,392,430</u>
Tobacco, unmanufactured .. .. .	-	-	-	-
Manufactures of tobacco .. .. .	6,050	102,497	6,104	123,195
Live animals .. .. .	126,240	3,587,659	130,836	4,213,000
Hides and skins .. .. .	374,891	234,336	557,568	255,316
Wool, greasy or scoured .. .. .	13,341,965	16,713	16,736,287	447,109
Other animal substances, not food .. .. .	310,473	39,221	190,985	62,839
Vegetable subs. & fibres, incl. raw cotton	145,340	98,453	320,547	81,408
<u>Total animals, animal and vegetable sub- stances, tobacco .. .. .</u>	<u>14,304,959</u>	<u>4,078,879</u>	<u>17,942,327</u>	<u>5,182,867</u>
Yarns, piece goods, and textiles .. .. .	28,204	393,007	20,717	577,755
Apparel .. .. .	23,209	668,931	45,240	751,609
Tallow .. .. .	237,283	90,703	179,238	170,495
Animal and vegetable oils and fats .. .. .	203,897	149,710	48,054	188,444
Oils, fats, and waxes, n.e.i. .. .. .	214,727	169,878	225,184	240,409
Coal .. .. .	-	74,124	-	65,734
Copper - blister, ingots, scrap, &c. .. .. .	696,294	2,633,895	1,474,625	2,103,615
Lead, in metallic form or matte .. .. .	1,149,335	1,002	1,860,965	-
Titanium and zirconium ores, sands, &c. .. .. .	1,016,303	169	2,127,671	312
Other metals, ores, sands, & concentrates	301,249	433,454	1,111,107	224,269
Motor vehicles & cycles, cycles, & parts .. .. .	6,508	660,841	7,412	656,235
Machines and machinery .. .. .	196,438	579,793	106,600	788,190
Other metal manufactures .. .. .	187,615	478,774	193,353	663,056
Rubber and rubber manufactures .. .. .	9,439	1,017,781	11,540	642,056
Leather and leather manufactures .. .. .	45,758	138,415	77,902	164,494
Timber, including logs .. .. .	76,322	182,768	24,969	211,507
Plywood and veneers .. .. .	12,718	795,903	26,069	838,225
Other items, n.e.i. .. .. .	512,848	814,866	459,663	781,816
<u>Total other commodities .. .. .</u>	<u>4,918,147</u>	<u>9,284,014</u>	<u>8,000,309</u>	<u>9,068,221</u>
<u>Total value of all exports .. .. .</u>	<u>40,608,381</u>	<u>25,539,869</u>	<u>45,982,534</u>	<u>28,693,032</u>



Table 2.

Value of Imports into Queensland, Three Months Ended December, 1955 and 1956.

Commodity.	Three Months Ended December, 1955.		Three Months Ended December, 1956.	
	From Overseas.	From Other States.	From Overseas.	From Other States.
	£	£	£	£
Meat, poultry, &c. - fresh or preserved ..	1,361	80,851	29	83,148
Milk and cream, including infants' food ..	-	535,448	1,129	555,871
Fish, fresh or preserved .. ..	209,290	80,178	121,004	71,441
Other foodstuffs of animal origin ..	21,396	146,031	12,010	133,129
<u>Total foodstuffs of animal origin ..</u>	<u>232,047</u>	<u>842,508</u>	<u>134,172</u>	<u>843,589</u>
Potatoes, fresh .. ..	-	10,688	-	4,152
Other fresh vegetables .. ..	-	80,299	-	41,483
Fruit, fresh .. ..	-	485,126	-	450,415
Fruit, dried or evaporated .. ..	115	88,731	-	81,705
Fruit & vegetables, preserved in liquid, &c.	7,293	324,021	3,582	299,276
Tea .. ..	742,329	11,007	359,493	2,032
Coffee and cocoa .. ..	35,587	76,702	86,192	251,677
Confectionery .. ..	3,307	424,568	1,276	585,810
Other foodstuffs of vegetable origin ..	51,120	909,146	41,706	959,741
Ale, beer, and porter .. ..	4,419	724,656	1,211	644,996
Wine and spirits .. ..	25,677	290,003	19,418	326,704
<u>Total foodstuffs, &amp;c., of vegetable origin</u>	<u>869,847</u>	<u>3,424,947</u>	<u>512,878</u>	<u>3,647,991</u>
Tobacco, manufactured or unmanufactured ..	40,332	1,473,174	10,530	1,433,116
Live animals .. ..	-	689,957	738	499,471
Wool, greasy or scoured .. ..	-	329,581	-	697,061
Other animal & veg. subs., mainly unmanufd.	177,655	202,382	153,159	315,613
<u>Total animals, animal and vegetable sub- stances, tobacco .. ..</u>	<u>217,987</u>	<u>2,695,094</u>	<u>164,427</u>	<u>2,945,261</u>
Yarns, threads, cordage, and twines ..	78,285	227,376	102,519	230,068
Bags and sacks .. ..	170,460	49,103	35,279	70,061
Piece goods, blankets, and towels ..	1,217,099	1,568,628	734,433	1,476,782
Linoleum .. ..	146,862	112,428	93,286	106,330
Carpets and floor coverings, n.e.i. ..	179,559	103,858	46,765	161,488
Textiles, n.e.i. .. ..	64,407	350,564	29,357	530,287
Footwear .. ..	15,823	751,830	8,293	832,298
Apparel, n.e.i. .. ..	73,961	3,652,022	56,136	3,868,362
<u>Total yarns, fibres, textiles, &amp; apparel</u>	<u>1,946,456</u>	<u>6,815,809</u>	<u>1,106,073</u>	<u>7,275,676</u>
Kerosene .. ..	219,415	14,145	247,471	38,872
Lubricating mineral oil .. ..	262,281	125,824	165,763	57,749
Petroleum and shale oils .. ..	1,376,426	687,023	1,528,619	2,195,897
Oils, fats, and waxes, n.e.i. .. ..	27,305	194,414	34,198	398,577
Pigments, paints, varnishes .. ..	93,501	560,041	97,942	571,021
<u>Total oils, paints, &amp;c. .. ..</u>	<u>1,978,928</u>	<u>1,581,447</u>	<u>2,073,993</u>	<u>3,262,116</u>
Rocks and minerals .. ..	175,454	149,851	114,017	103,250
Iron and steel, plate and sheet, galv., &c.	92,683	691,309	-	496,676
" " " " " " , other ..	701,144	610,584	588,074	556,364
" " " , pipes and tubes .. ..	18,583	409,061	14,394	610,133
" " " , other .. ..	588,303	1,463,796	172,104	2,056,749
Non-ferrous metals .. ..	33,837	291,638	8,723	276,617
Kitchenware, including heating appliances	88,440	279,642	21,611	409,082
Hardware, including tools .. ..	164,797	825,560	106,781	994,365
Other metal manufactures, except machinery	362,895	736,249	236,132	791,771
Railway and tramway vehicles, incl. locos.	15,532	236,436	85,531	144,825
Motor vehicles & cycles, cycles, and parts	1,441,738	3,948,281	956,687	4,273,012
Tractors and parts .. ..	1,023,561	928,291	670,326	718,211
Electrical apparatus and machinery ..	773,262	2,319,328	344,954	2,556,390
Household machines .. ..	45,927	1,598,579	28,782	1,725,306
Agricultural, &c. machines and implements	226,375	866,478	163,669	934,707
Other machinery .. ..	1,172,944	1,410,562	818,686	1,286,580
<u>Total minerals, metals, metal manuf., &amp;c.</u>	<u>6,925,475</u>	<u>16,765,645</u>	<u>4,330,471</u>	<u>17,934,038</u>

Table 2 (continued).

Value of Imports into Queensland, Three Months Ended December, 1955 and 1956.

Commodity.	Three Months Ended December, 1955.		Three Months Ended December, 1956.	
	From Overseas.	From Other States.	From Overseas.	From Other States.
	£	£	£	£
Rubber tyres and tubes .. .. .	44,075	1,072,731	35,400	1,087,762
Other rubber and rubber manufactures .. .. .	348,315	327,438	171,402	394,716
Timber, including logs .. .. .	254,118	58,387	228,191	43,804
Furniture, wood and wicker manufactures .. .. .	27,159	86,974	41,856	81,413
Portland cement .. .. .	1,350	549	920	1,172
Glass and glassware .. .. .	134,655	164,896	145,845	165,948
Crockery and household ware, n.e.i. .. .. .	202,789	107,940	110,527	89,117
Other earthenware, china, stoneware, &c. .. .. .	33,800	152,633	46,972	181,699
Paper, paper boards, pulp .. .. .	544,661	603,956	545,460	893,893
Stationery and paper manufactures, books .. .. .	211,514	545,586	206,321	692,335
Jewellery, &c., fancy and sporting goods .. .. .	179,623	724,236	108,998	811,701
Scientific instruments and appliances .. .. .	97,672	251,929	78,819	286,426
Medical & toilet preparations, soap, drugs, &c. .. .. .	66,303	1,746,643	32,588	2,056,630
Fertilisers .. .. .	231,374	756,118	505,699	410,179
Other drugs and chemicals .. .. .	197,517	920,650	168,893	894,330
Other goods .. .. .	789,657	1,510,492	681,864	1,772,287
<u>Total other commodities</u> .. .. .	<u>3,364,582</u>	<u>9,031,158</u>	<u>3,109,755</u>	<u>9,863,412</u>
<u>Total value of all imports</u> .. .. .	<u>15,535,322</u>	<u>41,156,608</u>	<u>11,431,769</u>	<u>45,772,083</u>

Table 3.

Quantities of Certain Commodities Exported and Imported, Queensland,  
Three Months Ended December, 1956.

Commodity.	Unit.	Total Exports.	Total Imports.
Beef and veal - fresh, chilled, or frozen .. .. .	cwt.	615,930	n
Meat, poultry, &c.- preserved in tins, &c. .. .. .	cwt.	121,363	3,948
Milk and cream, incl. infants' and invalids' food .. .. .	cwt.	n	30,684
Fish, fresh or preserved .. .. .	cwt.	n	10,694
Butter .. .. .	cwt.	119,350	n
Wheat .. .. .	bushels	359,707	373
Maize .. .. .	bushels	178,880	n
Millet and panicum .. .. .	tons	3,849	n
Sorghum .. .. .	tons	4,445	n
Flour, wheaten .. .. .	tons	13,578	n
Potatoes .. .. .	tons	n	68
Pineapples, fresh .. .. .	bushels	136,021	n
Dates, raisins, sultanas, &c. .. .. .	lb.	n	479,558
Other dried or evaporated fruits .. .. .	lb.	225,696	551,593
Pineapples, preserved in liquid .. .. .	cwt.	102,353	n
Other fruit preserved in liquid .. .. .	cwt.	30,085	17,776
Peanuts, including peanut paste .. .. .	lb.	5,203,612	n
Sugar, raw or refined .. .. .	tons	410,939	n
Tea .. .. .	lb.	n	1,591,691
Confectionery .. .. .	lb.	n	3,818,165
Ale, beer, and porter .. .. .	gallons	n	744,175
Tobacco, unmanufactured .. .. .	lb.	-	29,435
Cattle .. .. .	number	142,775	14,757
Sheep .. .. .	number	100,795	44,502
Wool, greasy .. .. .	lb.	46,275,351	1,737,211
Wool, scoured, &c. .. .. .	lb.	2,595,330	275,280
Kerosene .. .. .	gallons	n	5,186,428
Other fuel oils .. .. .	gallons	n	48,640,965
Timber, including logs .. .. .	sup. ft.	2,728,933	9,057,922
Plywood .. .. .	sq. ft.	21,156,956	n
Veneers .. .. .	sq. ft.	3,904,136	n

n Not recorded separately, but nil or only a small quantity.